

## Request for Remote Public Input for House Select Committee on COVID-19 Public Comments Report - LINC

Date Submitted	Category	Name	Comments
04/09/2020 10:03 PM	Education Working Group	Mrs. Caroline Kolbet	<p>We live in High Point, NC in the Guilford County School (GCS) District. We wanted to reach out to share our experience &amp; thoughts with what we've encountered since March 16. We have two 11th graders at High Point Central; one is in dual enrollment at Guilford Technical Community College (GTCC). We had both of them reach out via email to all of their teachers; basically asking what they could be doing &amp; if those teachers needed any assistance. They began their online schooling the week of March 16. The work load has been extremely high. They both feel like they are doing way more work online versus a typical week at school. They are starting their days around 930am. They stop work for lunch, a brain break in the afternoon, &amp; for dinner. They are completing their online school day around 9p.</p> <p>Now we learn that March 13 is a pivotal moment in the life of grades. Meaning that we were all set for online learning, that they have worked tirelessly online, &amp; now it's going to show for nothing? Rest assured, they have submitted all of their assignments via Canvas prior to Spring Break. As of March 13, my son has a D in 2 classes. Never would we think that he would not have an opportunity to raise those grades. Historically, anytime he's been in this position, he's had time to turn it around &amp; get a B. He has an interest in the Guilford Apprenticeship Program &amp; has applied. We are concerned that if he's given the March 13 grades, it will hurt his chances to move forward with this program, or if he would want to apply for dual enrollment at GTCC. Our daughter is a straight A student with aspirations of attending college. Her current grades could hurt her potentially on school choice &amp; scholarship opportunities. She is still completing assignments at GTCC, submitting them, &amp; receiving grades.</p> <p>I'm sure you've already seen this article; here's a link: <a href="https://www.newsobserver.com/news/local/education/article241710191.html?fbclid=IwAR1bZgIj9r5ZDbfhW6nBSqZR6NODC_ydDAc8mhtKTMEpfxWdo1YXrczJYrk">https://www.newsobserver.com/news/local/education/article241710191.html?fbclid=IwAR1bZgIj9r5ZDbfhW6nBSqZR6NODC_ydDAc8mhtKTMEpfxWdo1YXrczJYrk</a></p> <p>From my perspective, this article states that the students should be given credit for the work they are doing during this time they are out of school; given grades based on the guidance from the state board. We shouldn't punish the students that are working hard by not giving them the opportunity to improve their grades when a small fraction of the students don't care &amp; are seeing this as a vacation. Those students that don't have access to a device &amp;/or internet, don't lower their grades...give them their March 13 grade. But please don't punish those students who are completing the online assignments by not allowing them to get credit for the work they're doing &amp; improve their grade.</p> <p>I have spoken to some of my children's teachers. They say they have been instructed by GCS to only provide a complete/incomplete for online assignments. That seems to be in conflict with the state board. Please, immediately, give the grades based on the work they're doing. If you give actual grades for the online work, your options are more open in the future, as far as grading is concerned. But if you assign the completes/incompletes now &amp; change your mind to needing the actual grade, the teachers won't be able to give credit to the students that have been working.</p>

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			<p>As juniors in high school, they will be moving into their final year of high school, then on to college or career, along with being an adult. It is extremely important for them to have a good work ethic. The message that is being conveyed to these students is that when the going gets tough, it doesn't matter; you either have 'completes or incompletes'.</p> <p>In my opinion, there is conflict between the state board &amp; all NC school districts. Please begin giving grades to those students who are continuing &amp; completing their online assignments. Realistically, there's nothing you can do about COVID-19, but you can make the right decision for the students that have been working nonstop.</p> <p>Thanks for taking the time to read our letter.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Caroline &amp; Gary Kolbet</p>
04/10/2020 08:26 AM	Education Working Group	Sharon Bushnell	<p>I strongly support pre-paid mail-in ballots. As a person in the highest risk category for contracting Covid-19, I anticipate staying home for many more months, well past the upcoming election dates.</p>